Middlebury

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Friends of International Students (FIS) Host Program Newsletter, Spring 2017

A Note from ISSS; Important Dates; Upcoming Local Events; FIS Story Corner

A Note from ISSS

Spring is here and there is a flurry of activity on campus. Students are making the most of the beautiful weather, completing final projects and making plans for the upcoming summer. Soon family members from around the world will join us to celebrate Commencement. We hope you are able to enjoy the sunny days ahead with your students before they take flight to pursue their summer plans, post-graduate education or careers around the globe.

If you are interested in hosting a new student this fall please contact us and spread the word to family and friends. Our first FIS Host Program information meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 18, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m. in the ISSS Lounge, 2nd floor, Service Building**. New hosts are invited to attend an information meeting before they participate in the program and we welcome our veteran hosts to join us as well. Host stories and insights are vital to new FIS friends who are trying to decide if they would be a good fit for the program. To let us know of your interest in the program for Fall 2017 or to register for the information meeting on May 18, e-mail us at isss@middlebury.edu or call 802-443-5858. We will hold additional information meetings throughout the summer, dates to be announced.

Important Dates

Exam Period

The spring exam period begins on Thursday, May 18 and ends on Tuesday, May 23. This is a great time to reach out and offer your student a chance to get away from their studies for a bit. An invitation to dinner at your home, lunch in the dining hall or even just a coffee or ice cream break in town are wonderful ways to connect and unwind together.

Commencement

The Middlebury College commencement ceremony will be held outdoors on Sunday, May 28 at 10 a.m. on the College Lawn, located below Mead Chapel near Munroe and Voter Halls. The ceremony is open to everyone; no tickets are required. In the case of severe weather, the ceremony will be indoors at Peterson Family Athletics Complex. This year, you can also stream the ceremony online at: http://go.middlebury.edu/stream.

For detailed information and updates regarding weather, please visit the College's Commencement website at:
http://www.middlebury.edu/studentlife/events/commencement .

Summer Break

Summer for students begins on Wednesday, May 24 with residence halls closing at noon. If possible, check-in with your student before the break begins. You may find out he/she is staying in Vermont over the break, giving you more time to plan summer outings. If your student is leaving for the summer, remember that hosts are not expected to provide transportation to the airport or storage during the break. Helpful year-end advice, including information about summer storage options, can be found on the College's website at: http://www.middlebury.edu/studentlife/residentiallife/housingdeadlines/end_yr**.**
You can also remind your student that they can find transportation options at:
http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/transportation.

Upcoming Local Events

Here are some upcoming spring events you may enjoy…

Senior Thesis Presentations
May 5-16, various locations on campus
Please see the College's Events Calendar to find out more information about thesis presentations from all areas of study at:
http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar_of_events

Senior Studio Art Thesis Exhibition
May 16, Tuesday (through May 26), Johnson Memorial Building
This exhibit showcases the independent studio art of advanced students. Free and open to the public.
http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar_of_events

Senior Week Choir Concert
May 26, Friday, Robison Hall, Mahaney Center for the Arts
This annual concert by the Middlebury College Choir features favorite songs of the Class of 2017. Free and open to the public.
http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/music/Ensembles/collegechoir

Find other exhibitions, performances and events at the College by clicking on the following links:

- The College Calendar: http://www.middlebury.edu/events
- Middlebury College Museum of Art: http://museum.middlebury.edu/
- Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs: http://www.middlebury.edu/international/rcga/events
- Addison County Chamber of Commerce: https://www.addisoncounty.com/
- Burlington happenings: http://www.sevendaysvt.com/

FIS Story Corner

The FIS Story Corner is a chance to share pictures and stories within the FIS Community. If you have pictures or a story you would like to share, please send us an e-mail. Here are some more host program adventures from this past year…

Host John Schmitt (far right) and his children Gabriel and Henry enjoyed Halloween with their student, Quentin Jalla ’20 (Dracula).

Silvia Cantu Bautista ’20 (center with striped shirt) enjoyed Thanksgiving with her hosts, Scott Barkdoll (back row, far right) and Pam Berenbaum (not pictured) and their many friends and relatives.

Gabbie Santos ’17 (front) enjoyed a hike up Morris Mountain with friends and his hosts, Cheryl LeBlanc and Deirdre Morris. Back row, left to right are: Sarah McKeagney, Cheryl LeBlanc, Deirdre Morris, Adara Wicaksono ‘17, and Hiruy Ephrem ’17

Hazan Sucu ’18 and Patrick Tang ’17 who share the same birthday and host, Barb Wood, enjoyed a birthday celebration at Fire and Ice in February.

Host Mike Roy snapped this picture of his student, Mohammed Talib ’19, enjoying his first attempt at cross-country skiing at the Rikert Nordic Center in Ripton this past winter.

We always welcome new pictures and stories from hosts. We look forward to hearing about your spring and summer adventures at: isss@middlebury.edu .

Enjoy the sunny days ahead with your students and thank you for being a part of this special program.

ISSS Staff
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